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From: Daria J White <[REDACTED]>
To: Nancy Rumrill/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 11/07/2008 01:21 AM
Subject: Maui Injection Well testimony

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Ground Water Office (WTR-9)

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

Attn: Nancy Rumrill

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Dear Dr. Rumrill:

Thank you for the opportunity to give public testimony in the permit renewal process for the Lahaina Was wells.

I would like to echo the data and testimony of Meghan Dailer and Robin Knox, as well as Dan Polhemus' few.

While there are many facets of this subject to address, my time is unfortunately limited and so I will brief coral reef habitat, recommendations for treatment improvements, and a reminder that we stand in the face **Coral Reefs**

I am a marine scientist and research diver with the Division of Aquatic Resources on Maui, collaborating work currently focuses on the reef at Kahekili Beach Park, and I spend a lot of time on the reef there. As whole of the Hawaiian Archipelago (I am currently aboard a NOAA research vessel now) and is familiar certainty that Maui's reefs are in a fragile and stressed state, even without data. The reef at Kahekili show algal blooms, areas of the reef are crumbling, and freshwater seeps emerge at many areas on the reef. Me that algae on the reef are passively uptaking nutrients with a sewage signal. Invasive algae blooms are loc As an example from the past: when the Kapalua injection wells closed, the algae problem in that area sub Program (CRAMP) data show clear declines in coral cover in the areas in proximity to injection wells, as

Maui's coral reefs are in a state of rapid decline. Ecosystems that have been evolving and flourishing for collapsing in mere decades due to anthropogenic impacts. We acknowledge that there are many stressors injection wells are a major contributor (unpublished data).

Advanced Wastewater Treatment

I highly recommend that we not settle for the next minimum as is so frequently done, by putting our effort does not meet health standards, but ensure better water quality through advanced wastewater treatment of wastewater to the 'fifth degree' wherein the product is drinkable water. For an island community such as water is greater than the supply, we should plan for future growth and put the appropriate measures and to Federal assistance to make the necessary improvements to the wastewater facility, and infrastructure for water in attaining these resources.

Climate Change

With committed global warming and committed ocean acidification, it is imperative to remove anthropogenic they may have the energy to grow and reproduce instead of spending energy fighting off stressors. The In the US Coral Reef Task Force Meeting this year have produced one message: *we only have ten years*. "E are not" was the message from USCRTF EPA member Stephen L. Johnson, directed to Hawaii's Planning. We have an opportunity here to make significant changes to the way we are impacting our reefs, and it requires Federal assistance.

When I say 'we', I speak for all of the people I talk with in the community who are concerned about the water supply, and our health and well being. This constitutes a lot of folks, so if they were not able to comment. The current standards and regulations for R-I water are insufficient for public health; as I am sure you have Knox. Please recommend that advanced treatment be the new policy for our island community. Unlike the harder to come by out here.

I sincerely appreciate this opportunity to give my input on this issue.

Best regards.

Darla J White

Field Coordinator

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